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Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2019

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)
Cook County Conference Room
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

Members Present:

Rocco Zucchero – Illinois Tollway, Chair, Lynnette Ciaverella – Metra, Michael Connelly – CTA, John Donovan – FHWA, Doug Ferguson – CMAP, Tony Greep – FTA, Luann Hamilton – CDOT, Jessica Hector-Hsu – RTA, Scott Hennings – McHenry County, Chris Hiebert – SEWRPC, Elizabeth Irvin – CNT, Tom Kelso – IDOT OP&P, Mike Klemens – Lake County, Christina Kupkowski – Will County, Tara Orbon – Cook County, Ryan Peterson – Kane County, Joe Schofer (via phone) – Academic & Research, Troy Simpson – Kendall County, Chris Snyder – DuPage County, P.S. Sriraj – Academic & Research, Mike Sullivan – IDOT D1, Audrey Wennink – MPC

Staff Present:

Dominic Argumedo, Sarah Buchhorn, Dustin Calliari, Anthony Cefali, Emily Daucher, Teri Dixon, Kama Dobbs, Jesse Elam, Maggie Jarr, Erin Kenney, Leroy Kos, Stephanie Levine, Jen Maddux, Tony Manno, Martin Menninger, Stephane Phifer, Russell Pietrowiak, Katanya Raby, Jeff Schnobrich, Liz Schuh, Aseal Tineh, Sarah Welwema, Simone Weil, Barbara Zubek

Others Present:

Jane Anderson, Garland Armstrong, Heather Armstrong, Noel Basquin, Elaine Bottomley, Nathan Bruemmer, Tom Budescu, Dan Burke, Jack Cruikshank, Grant Davis, Scott Figved, Scott Hennings, Cole Jackson, Kendra Johnson, Josh Klingenstein, Daniel Knickelbein, Sandy Koo, Jeff Lind, John McFarlene, Kelsey Mulhausen, Dan Persky, Rajiv Pinto, Brian Plum, Adam Rod, Veronica Rodriguez, Adam Rolstad, Courtney Sage, David Seglin, Cody Sheriff, Troy Simpson, Anish Tailor

1.0 Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 by chair Zucchero.

2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements

There were no agenda changes or announcements.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2019 meeting, as presented, made by Ms. Hamilton, and seconded by Ms. Hector-Hsu, carried.

4.0 Committee Reports

Ms. Phifer reported that the coordinating committee held their first meeting on February 13, 2019. Most of the conversation was about what the committee responsibilities will be. Ms. Phifer also reported that CMAP will be developing a leadership academy to help build up the capacity of the entire region.

5.0 FFY 2019-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

5.1 TIP Amendments and Administrative Modifications

Mr. Kos reported that formal amendment 19-03 was published to the eTIP website on February 15, 2019 for committee review and public comment. Administrative amendment 19-03.1 was also posted for information. A memo summarizing the formal and administrative changes was included in the packet. A motion to approve formal TIP amendment 19-03, made by Mr. Peterson and seconded by Mr. Snyder, carried.

5.2 Semi-Annual ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment

Mr. Kos reported that the public comment period for the semi-annual ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment 19-04 ended on February 19, 2019. No comments were received. A motion to recommend approval of the Semi-Annual ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment 19-04to the MPO Policy Committee, made by Ms. Hamilton and seconded by Mr. Snyder, carried.

6.0 ON TO 2050 Regionally Significant Projects Amendments

6.1 O'Hare Express Service Overview

Mr. Burke presented an overview of the O'Hare Express Service proposed to be developed by the Boring Company in partnership with the City of Chicago. Chair Zucchero asked about the status of NEPA documentation and Mr. Burke responded that the draft Environmental Assessment will be submitted this month. Chair Zucchero asked if there is a demonstration of the tunnel. Mr. Burke responded a onemile test tunnel opened in December in California. He stated that the vehicles for this project are still in development and said he is very confident that the Boring Company can design a 16 person autonomous vehicle for use in the tunnel. Ms. Wennink asked what kind of provisions there are if the Boring Company stops operating or only partially builds the project. Mr. Burke stated the city has several protections, including a surety provision which states that at any time during construction if the developer defaults or pulls out there would be payment to the City to close the project and render it to a safe condition. If the developer does pull out, they do not have ownership of the constructed facility and it would be turned over to the city with no capital costs. If the system is operational and the developer walks away, there will be a payment associated with that and the City will take possession of the system. Mr. Tailor, an audience member, asked what the ticket price will be. Mr. Burke responded that the ticket price is not finalized yet but the goal is to be around \$25, approximately half of the cost of rideshare. Mr. Kelso asked who controls the price. Mr. Burke stated that the City is likely to propose price caps in the contract.

6.2 Summary of Public Comments

Ms. Schuh presented an overview of public comment received to date regarding the proposed amendments. Fifteen comments were received about the O'Hare Express Service, with one comment in full support of the project and 14 comments in opposition. Four comments were received about the Jackson Park project, with two comments not related to the transportation improvements proposed in the project, one comment opposed, and one in support. Ms. Irvin stated that CNT is still working on their comments and said they echo some of the same concerns about the details of the O'Hare Express Service project and want to make sure the process sets us up for a precedent for future amendments.

6.3 ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment 19-04.1

Mr. Pietrowiak reported that the ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment 19-04.1 did not receive any public comments. Ms. Hector-Hsu asked what would trigger another plan and TIP amendment if either project were to change for some reason. Mr. Pietrowiak stated that if there was a funding change that exceeded a threshold or if the project completion year moved beyond the current scenario years that would trigger a TIP amendment. A motion to approve the ON TO 2050/TIP Conformity Analysis and TIP Amendment 19-04.1 made by Mr. Connelly, seconded by Ms. Hamilton, carried.

7.0 Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) Budget and Capital Program

Mr. Davis presented an overview of the department's federal capital program. Chair Zucchero asked how far out CDOT plans for their Transit Asset Management Plan. Mr. Davis stated that CDOT plans long term for their assets beyond 10 years. Mr. Donovan asked what opportunities there are for public input. Mr. Burke replied that the City publishes the Capital Improvement Program annually and there is public comment associated with that. He added that CDOT is also required to go through the new STP selection process. Ms. Irvin thanked CDOT for the helpful information.

8.0 Legislative Update

Mr. Cefali reported that the CMAP Board approved the 2019 Legislative Framework and state and federal agendas on February 13, 2019. Staff will use these documents to guide legislative activities at both state and federal levels. He stated that the deadline for filing bills was on February 15, 2019 and staff is tracking and analyzing those with relevance to ON TO 2050. He announced that Governor Pritzker delivered the joint State of the State and Budget address that called for a capital bill this session. CMAP staff has made contact with all relevant capital appropriations committees in the House and the Senate and CMAP will participate in a series of hearings throughout the spring regarding the state's transportation infrastructure. Chair Zucchero commented that House Bill 2785, the Geolocation and Privacy Protection Act, is a bill to watch.

9.0 Local Technical Assistance (LTA) Program

9.1 FY 2020 Program of Projects

Ms. Phifer presented the recommended program of projects for consideration for a recommendation for approval to the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee. She briefly described the outreach during the call for projects. There were 74 applications received from 66 applicants. In total, staff recommends 17 new projects for the LTA program and 12 projects for alternative support. Mr. Snyder asked what it means that five projects are contingent on funding availability. Ms. Phifer stated one of the projects is a housing project that does not fit in the traditional UWP transportation funding and the other four are dependent on competitive UWP funding approval. Ms. Hector-Hsu stated that the RTA portion of the program is also out for public comment until March 8, 2019 and will go to the RTA Board for approval on March 21, 2019. A motion to recommend approval of the FY 2020 LTA Program to the CMAP Board and MPO Policy Committee made by Mr. Snyder, seconded by Mr. Sullivan carried.

9.2 Status Report

The LTA program status report was included in the meeting materials.

10.0 Other Business

There was no other business.

11.0 Public Comment

Heather Armstrong stated she believes most people don't want O'Hare Express Service and due to the cost would just take the Blue Line. She suggested more to improve North Central service to O'Hare or to add an O'Hare stop on the Milwaukee District-West line would be better than using taxpayer dollars on something people won't use. She added that she is concerned about bridge conditions and stated they need to be fixed before they fall apart.

Michelle Flagg introduced herself as a real estate attorney and owner of a woman-owned business enterprise (WBE) and disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE). She asked what considerations would be given in the O'Hare Express Project for WBE and DBE companies. Ms. Hamilton stated that the specific provisions are unknown and suggested that Mr. Burke, who had left the meeting earlier, may be able to provide more information.

12.0 Next Meeting

The next Transportation Committee meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2019.

13.0 Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Snyder, seconded by Mr. Hennings, the meeting adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Zubek